

# MONOTROPIC BILEVEL PROGRAMMING: DUALITY IN HYDRAULIC NETWORK OPTIMIZATION

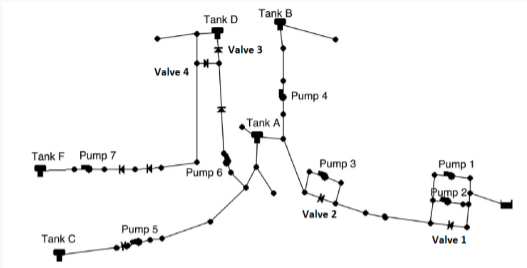
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Sophie Demassez (Mines Paris – PSL)

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How do hydraulic simulators work ?  
How to use them in hydraulic network optimization ?

# DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK



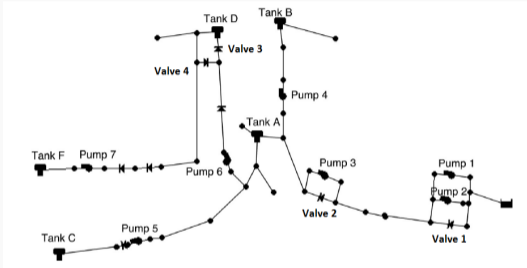
- simple directed graph  $G = (J, A)$
- $a \in A = \{ \text{pipes, pumps, valves} \}$
- $j \in J = \text{Service} \cup \text{Reservoirs}$
- incidence matrix  $E \in \{0, 1, -1\}^{A \times J}$ :

$$a = (i, j) : E_{ai} = -1, E_{aj} = 1, E_{an} = 0$$

Hypothesis (for this exposé):

- no pressure-induced leakage, no aging
- fixed speed pumps (on/off), controlled gate valves (close/open)

# DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK



- flow  $q_a$  on arcs  $a \in A$
- head  $h_j$  at nodes  $j \in J$
- demand  $D_s$  at service nodes  $s \in S$
- level/height  $H_r$  of reservoirs  $r \in R$
- resistance  $\phi_a$  on arcs  $a \in A$

Network Analysis Problem: find  $(q_A, h_J)$  meeting  $(D_S, H_R, \phi_A)$  ?

# HYDRAULIC NETWORK ANALYSIS PROBLEM

$$NAP(D_S, H_R, \phi_A) =$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \{(q_A, h_J) \in \mathbb{R}^A \times \mathbb{R}^J, & & \text{(flow, head)} \\ q_s = D_s & \forall s \in S, & \text{demand} \\ h_r = H_r & \forall r \in R, & \text{level} \\ v_a = \phi_a(q_a) & \forall a \in A \} & \text{resistance} \end{array}$$

where  $q_j := \sum_a E_{aj} q_a$  residual flow at node  $j \in J$

$v_a := \sum_j -E_{aj} h_j$  head loss on arc  $a \in A$ .

$$\implies \sum_a v_a q_a = - \sum_j h_j q_j$$

compute an element of NAP and check the bounds:

$$NAP(D_S, H_R, \phi_A) =$$

$$\{(q_A, h_S) \in \mathbb{R}^A \times \mathbb{R}^S,$$

$$q_s = D_s$$

$$v_a = \phi_a(q_a)$$

$$\forall s \in S,$$

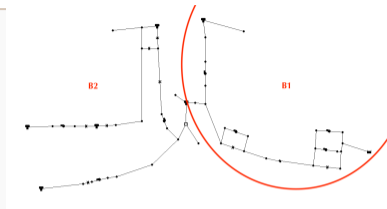
$$\forall a \in A\}.$$

System of equations solved by the Newton-Raphson algorithm [TODINI&PILATI 88, SALGADO 89] example: EPANET

# DECOMPOSITION OF NAP

$$G = \cup_{b \in B} (J_b, A_b)$$

graph partition along nodes in  $R$



$$NAP(D_S, H_R, \phi_A) =$$

$$\bigcup_{b \in B} NAP(D_{S_b}, H_{R_b}, \phi_{A_b})$$
$$= \bigcup_{b \in B} \{(q_{A_b}, h_{S_b}) :$$

$$q_s = D_s$$

$$v_a = \phi_a(q_a)$$

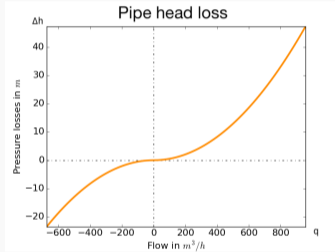
$$\forall s \in S_b$$

$$\forall a \in A_b\}$$

# RESISTANCE

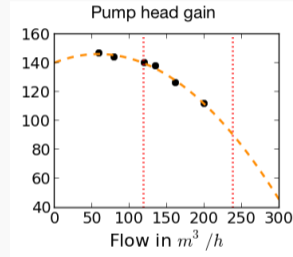
pipes: frictions

(Darcy-Weisbach/Swamee-Jain)



pumps: discharge pressure

(quadratic fit)



- quadratic approximation  $\phi_a(q) = \alpha_a q|q| + \beta_a q + \gamma_a$  with  $\alpha_a > 0$ : continuous, strictly increasing, bijective on  $\mathbb{R}$
- integral  $f_a(q) = \int_0^q \phi_a(x) dx$  is smooth, strictly convex, and coercive
- inverse  $\phi_a^{-1}$  has the same property



second option for solving NAP:  
primal/dual reformulation

## PRIMAL REFORMULATION OF NAP

$(q_A, h_S)$  in

$$\text{NAP: } q_s = D_s \forall s \in S, v_a = \phi_a(q_a) \forall a \in A$$

if and only if

$q_A$  solves

$$P_{\text{NAP}} : \min_{q_A} \sum_{a \in A} f_a(q_a) + H_R^T q_R : q_s = D_s \forall s \in S$$

with  $f_a = \int \phi_a$  strictly convex, then solution is **unique**

Proof: NAP are the stationary points  $\nabla L = 0$  of the lagrangian function:

$$L(q_A, h_S) = \sum_{a \in A} (f_a(q_a) - v_a q_a) - h_S^T D_S.$$

## DUAL REFORMULATION OF NAP

$$L(q_A, h_S) = \sum_{a \in A} (f_a(q_a) - v_a q_a) - h_S^\top D_S$$

Strong duality holds:  $P \equiv D : \max_{h_S} \min_{q_A} L(q_A, h_S) = \max_{h_S} L((\phi_a^{-1}(v_a))_{a \in A}, h_S)$ .

$(q_A, h_S)$  in

$$NAP : \quad q_s = D_s \forall s \in S, \quad v_a = \phi_a(q_a) \forall a \in A$$

if and only if

$h_S$  solves

$$D_{NAP} : \min_{h_S} \sum_{a \in A} f_a^*(v_a) + D_S^\top h_S$$

with  $f_a^*(v) = \max_q (vq - f_a(q)) = -f_a(\phi_a^{-1}(v)) + v\phi_a^{-1}(v)$  convex conjugate of  $f_a$ .

## STRONG DUALITY REFORMULATION OF NAP

$q_A$  minimizes  $F$  in  $P_{NAP}$  and  $h_S$  maximizes  $F^*$  in  $D_{NAP}$  then  $F(q_A) \leq F^*(h_S)$

$NAP = SD_{NAP}$

$$SD_{NAP} = \{(q_A, h_S) \in \mathbb{R}^A \times \mathbb{R}^S, q_s = D_s \forall s \in S, \\ \sum_{a \in A} (f_a(q_a) + f_a^*(v_a)) + H_R^\top q_R + D_S^\top h_S \leq 0\} \quad (SD)$$

with  $f_a \in \int \phi_a, f_a(0) = 0$  and  $f_a^* \in \int \phi_a^{-1}, f_a^*(0) = -f_a(\phi_a^{-1}(0))$ .

## STRONG DUALITY REFORMULATION OF NAP

$$NAP = SD_{NAP}$$

$$SD_{NAP} = \{(q_A, h_S) \in \mathbb{R}^A \times \mathbb{R}^S, q_s = D_s \forall s \in S, \\ \sum_{a \in A} (f_a(q_a) + f_a^*(v_a)) + H_R^T q_R + D_S^T h_S \leq 0\} \quad (SD)$$

with  $f_a \in \int \phi_a$ ,  $f_a(0) = 0$  and  $f_a^* \in \int \phi_a^{-1}$ ,  $f_a^*(0) = -f_a(\phi_a^{-1}(0))$ .

- (SD) integrates and aggregates the flow-potential equations:

$$\begin{aligned} (SD) &\iff \sum_a f_a(q_a) + f_a^*(v_a) - q_a v_a = 0 \\ &\iff f_a(q_a) = f_a(\phi_a^{-1}(v_a)) + f'_a(\phi_a^{-1}(v_a))(q_a - \phi_a^{-1}(v_a)) \quad \forall a \\ &\iff \phi_a^{-1}(v_a) = q_a \quad \forall a. \end{aligned}$$

- $SD_{NAP}$  is an exact aggregate reformulation of  $NAP$
- $P_{NAP}$  and  $D_{NAP}$  are conjugate convex nonlinear programs
- called *content* and *co-content* models in [COLLINS 1978]
- or *distribution* and *differential* problems in [ROCKAFELLAR 1988]
- generalization: **nonlinear flow networks** and **monotropic programs** [ROCKAFELLAR 1988]

# MONOTROPIC PROGRAMMING [ROCKAFELLAR, 1988]

additive convex objective  
over linear constraints

$$P : \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^J} \sum_{j \in J} f_j(x_j)$$
$$s.t. \sum_{j \in J} E_{ij} x_j = d_i \quad \forall i \in I$$

$f_j$  closed proper convex on  $\mathbb{R}$  = lower  
semi-continuous (poss. nonsmooth)

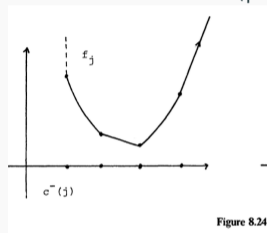


Figure 8.24

- monotropic = “one-dimension convexity” (extended to finite-dimension in [BERTSEKAS 2008])
- a class of convex programs behaving like linear programs:
  - combinatorial properties: finite set of descent directions (*elementary vectors*)
  - duality properties: strong duality, explicit symmetric dual

# MONOTROPIC PROGRAMMING: (FENCHEL) DUALITY

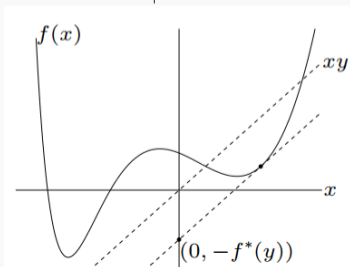
$f^* : v \in \mathbb{R} \mapsto \sup_x (xv - f(x))$  **convex conjugate** of  $f$  (Legendre-Fenchel transformation)

$$(P) : \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^J} \sum_{j \in J} f_j(x_j)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j \in J} E_{ij} x_j = d_i \quad \forall i \in I$$

$$(D) : \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^I} \sum_{i \in I} d_i u_i + \sum_{j \in J} f_j^*(v_j)$$

$$\text{s.t. } v_j := \sum_{i \in I} -E_{ij} u_i \quad \forall j \in J$$





## MONOTROPIC PROGRAMMING: (FENCHEL) DUALITY

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$$\text{s.t. } v_j := \sum_{i \in I} -E_{ij} u_i \quad \forall j \in J$$

- conjugate  $f_j^*$  is convex lower semi-continuous:  $D$  is monotropic
- biconjugate  $f_j = f_j^{**}$  (as  $f_j$  convex l.s.c.): dual(dual)=primal
- Fenchel inequality:  $f_j(x_j) + f_j^*(v_j) \geq x_j v_j$  and equality holds iff  $v_j \in \partial f_j(x_j)$
- strong duality and KKT conditions for  $(x; u, v)$  a feasible primal-dual pair:  
 $0 = \sum_j (f_j(x_j) + f_j^*(v_j)) + \sum_i d_i u_i = \sum_j (f_j(x_j) + f_j^*(v_j) - x_j v_j) \iff v_j \in \partial f_j(x_j) \forall j$

# MONOTROPIC PROGRAMMING: EQUIVALENT CONDITIONS (FINITE OPTIMUM)

primal:  $x$  solves

$$(P) : \min_x \sum_j f_j(x_j)$$
$$\text{s.t. } \sum_j E_{ij}x_j = d_i \quad \forall i$$

dual:  $u$  solves

$$(D) : \min_u \sum_i d_i u_i + \sum_j f_j^*(v_j)$$
$$\text{s.t. } v_j := \sum_i -E_{ij}u_i \quad \forall j$$

equilibrium (KKT):  $(x, u)$  solves

$$(Eq) : \sum_j E_{ij}x_j = d_i \quad \forall i$$
$$v_j := \sum_i -E_{ij}u_i \in \partial f_j(x_j) \quad \forall j$$

strong duality:  $(x, u)$  solves

$$(SD) : \sum_j E_{ij}x_j = d_i \quad \forall i$$
$$\sum_j (f_j(x_j) + f_j^*(v_j)) + \sum_i d_i u_i \leq 0.$$

# MONOTROPIC PROGRAMMING: APPLICATIONS

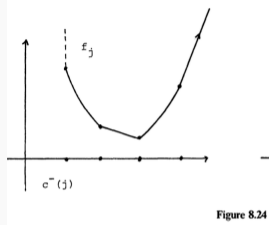
1.  $f_j$  piecewise linear/quad-convex

$$(P) : \min_x \sum_j f_j(x_j)$$
$$s.t. \sum_j E_{ij}x_j = d_i \quad \forall i$$

2. potential-flow network

$$(Eq) : \sum_j E_{ji}x_j = d_i \quad \forall i$$
$$v_j = \sum_i -E_{ji}u_i \in \partial f_j(x_j) \quad \forall j$$

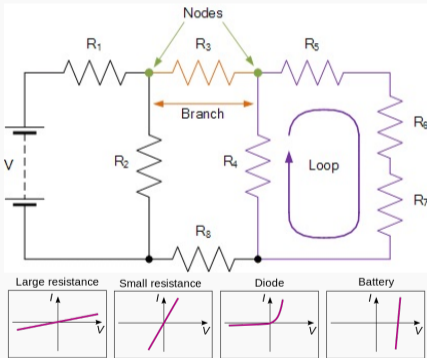
no need to linearize to dualize



- $E$  incidence matrix of graph  $G(I,J)$
- $x$  arc flows,  $u$  node potentials
- $\partial f$  arc resistance/conductivity

# POTENTIAL-FLOW NETWORKS

- equilibrium problem = NAP in hydraulic
- model for many other physical networks (newtonian): electricity, gas, heat, telecommunications, transportation, vascular, elastic/spring



- ex: electric circuit
- $A$ : conductors (resistors, batteries,...) with linear resistance  $r = v/x$  (Ohm's law)
- $x$  current,  $v$  voltage
- flow conservation = Kirchhoff's current law

## EX: EQUILIBRIUM WITH LINEAR RESISTANCE

$$\phi(x) = rx$$

- laws of Ohm (electric), Fourier (thermal), Poiseuille (viscous fluids)
- equilibrium solution minimizes **energy dissipation**:

$$(P) : \min_{x, Ex=d} \sum_j f_j(x_j) = \frac{r_j}{2} x_j^2 \text{ with } f_j = \int \phi_j.$$

applications to hydraulic network optimization

# HYDRAULIC NETWORK OPTIMIZATION

## design

- gravity-fed network
- static demand
- installation costs
- alternative arcs

## operation

- pressurized network
- dynamic demand
- energy costs
- controllable arcs

## bilevel structure

1. select a subset of arcs  $A' \subseteq A$
2. *NAP*: find an equilibrium on  $A'$  satisfying the demand

selection step: **incomplete** (metaheuristics) or **implicit** search (math prog)

## DESIGN: PIPE SIZING (STATIC)

- a graph  $G = (J, A \times K)$  with replicated arcs (possible pipe dimensions)
- arc status  $x_{ak} \in \{0,1\}$ : pipe of type  $k$  selected on arc  $a$

$$\min_{x,q,h} \sum_a \sum_k c_{ak} x_{ak}$$

$$s.t. x_{ak} = 0 \implies q_{ak} = v_{ak} = 0 \quad \forall a \in A, k \in K$$

$$\sum_k x_{ak} = 1, h_i - h_j = \sum_k v_{ak} \quad \forall a = (i,j) \in A$$

$$(q_{AK}, h_S) \in NAP(D_S, H_R, \phi_{AK(x)}).$$

Nonconvex MINLP formulation



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$$\sum_k x_{ak} = 1, h_i - h_j = \sum_k v_{ak} \quad \forall a = (i,j) \in A$$

$$\sum_{ak} E_{as} q_{ak} = D_s \quad \forall s \in S$$

$$\sum_{ak} (f_{ak}(q_{ak}) + f_{ak}^*(v_{ak})) + H_R^\top q_R + D_S^\top h_S \leq 0 \quad (SD)$$

Exact convex MINLP reformulation [TASSEF 2020], still non-polynomial

## OPERATION: PUMP SCHEDULING (DYNAMIC + STORAGE)

- a dynamic graph  $G = (J \times T, A \times T)$  and dynamic tariff  $c$  on discrete horizon  $T$
- arc status  $x_{at} \in \{0, 1\}$ : arc  $a$  active at time  $t$
- variable tank level  $H_{rt}$  depends on  $q_{r(t-1)}$

$$\min \sum_a \sum_t c_{at}^0 x_{at} + c_{at}^1 q_{at}$$

$$s.t. (q_{At}, h_{St}) \in NAP(D_{St}, H_{Rt}, \phi_{A(x_t)})$$

$$x_{at} = 0 \implies q_{at} = 0$$

$$H_{R(t+1)} = H_{Rt} + s_R^\top q_{Rt}$$

$$\underline{H}_{Rt} \leq H_{Rt} \leq \bar{H}_{Rt}$$

$$\forall t \in T$$

$$\forall a \in A, t \in T$$

$$\forall t \in T$$

$$\forall t \in T.$$

## OPERATION: STRONG DUALITY REFORMULATION

strong duality constraints are not convex

$$\sum_{a \in A} (f_a(q_{at}) + f_a^*(v'_{at})) + H_{Rt}^\top q_{Rt} + D_{St}^\top h_{St} \leq 0 \quad \forall t$$

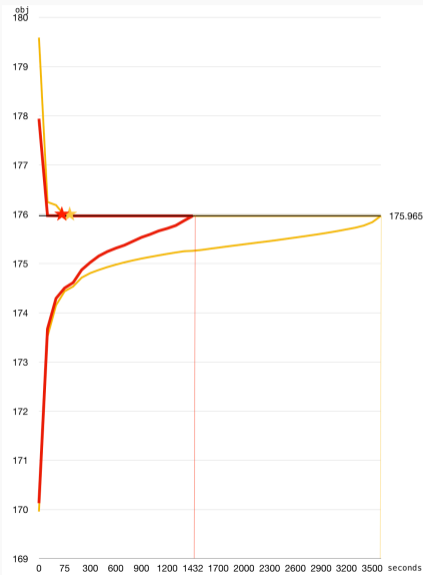
with  $x_{at} = 1 \implies v'_{at} = v_{at}$  and  $x_{at} = 0 \implies v'_{at} = (f_a^*)^{-1}(0)$

Option 1: relax and convexify

- $f_a(q_{at}) + f_a^*(v'_{at})$  is convex  $\implies$  linearize at trial points
- bad news: a loose relaxation of the bilinear terms may *absorb* the duality gap
- good news: tank capacities provide exogenous bounds on  $H_{Rt}$ ,  $H_{R(t+1)}$  and  $q_{Rt}$  to tighten McCormick's relaxation

## OPERATION - OPTION 1: CUT GENERATION

- Branch-and-Check [Bonvin, Demasse, Lodi 2020]
- evolution of the primal/dual bounds
- **with** or **without** duality cuts



## OPERATION - OPTION 2: VARIABLE SPLITTING

$$\min_{x,q,h,H} \sum_a \sum_t (c_{at}^0 x_{at} + c_{at}^1 q_{at})$$

$$\text{s.t. } (q_{At}, h_{St}) \in \text{NAP}(D_{St}, H_{Rt}, \phi_{A(x_t)}) \quad \forall t \in T$$

$$H_{R(t+1)} = H_{Rt} + s_R^\top q_{Rt} \quad \forall t \in T$$

$$\underline{H}_{Rt} \leq H_{Rt} \leq \overline{H}_{Rt} \quad \forall t \in T.$$

- complexity comes less from the nonconvex constraints  $v_a = \phi_a(q_a)$ , than from the temporal inter-dependency  $q_t = F(x_t, H_t)$ , and  $H_{t+1} = G(q_t)$
- still hard when dualizing the time-coupling constraints as  $H$  remains variable
- fixing  $H$  allows to **decompose** the problem temporally and spatially, but we **lose convergence**

## OPERATION - OPTION 2A: PENALIZE STORAGE (AMIR'S WORK)

$$\min_{x,q,h,H} \sum_a \sum_t (c_{at}^0 x_{at} + c_{at}^1 q_{at}) + \sum_r \sum_t \mu_{rt} |H_{r(t+1)} - (H_{rt} + s_r q_{rt})|$$

$$s.t. (q_{A_b t}, h_{S_b t}) \in NAP_b(D_{S_b t}, H_{R_b t}, \phi_{A_b}(x_t)) \quad \forall t \in T, b \in B$$

$$\underline{H}_{Rt} \leq H_{Rt} \leq \overline{H}_{Rt} \quad \forall t \in T.$$

(P1): fix  $H$ , enumerate  $x$ , get  $q$    (P2): fix  $q$ , relax NAP, get  $H$    3: update  $\mu$

- (P1) becomes decomposable both in time and space, thus enumerable
- **not full split**: then relax NAP in (P2)
- initial  $H$  obtained from a deep learning model

## OPERATION - OPTION 2B: DUALIZE STORAGE + STRONG DUALITY

$$\min_{x,q,h,H} \sum_a \sum_t (c_{at}^0 x_{at} + c_{at}^1 q_{at}) + \sum_r \sum_t \mu_{rt} (H_{r(t+1)} - H_{rt} - s_r q_{rt}) + \sum_t \lambda_t SD_t(q, h, H)$$

$$s.t. \quad q_{St} = D_{St}$$

$$\forall t \in T$$

$$\underline{H}_{Rt} \leq H_{Rt} \leq \overline{H}_{Rt}$$

$$\forall t \in T.$$

(P1): fix  $H$ , enumerate  $x$ , get  $q$     (P2): fix  $q$ , get  $H$     3: update  $\mu$

- full split
- primal and dual objective function  $F$  and  $F^*$  now appear in the objective:

$$SD_t(q, h, H) = F(q) + F^*(h, H) = \left( \sum_{a \in A} f_a(q_{at}) + H_{Rt}^\top q_{Rt} \right) + \left( \sum_{a \in A} f_a^*(v'_{at}) + D_{St}^\top h_{St} \right)$$

$$(P2) : \sum_t \sum_r \min_{H \in [\underline{H}, \bar{H}]} l(H) + F^*(H).$$

(P2) is computed by minimizing univariate convex functions over intervals

$$(P1) : \sum_t \sum_b \min_x l(x) + F(\tilde{q}(x)) + F^*(\tilde{h}(x))$$

(P1) is separable in time and space and results in solving two perturbed equilibrium problems for each configuration  $x$

costs and penalties are reported to the lower NAP level.



## CONCLUSION

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- nonconvex resistance constraints are not that hard in hydraulic network optimization
- but dynamic storage management in pump scheduling is hard
- problems have a bilevel structure with NAP at the inner level
- ways to exploit NAP (monotropic) duality
- ways to exploit NAP (monotropic) variational properties ?

## REFERENCES

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- our presentations and papers on the pump scheduling problem are available on <https://sofdem.github.io/>
- code and benchmarks available on:  
<https://github.com/sofdem/gopslpnlpbb>